THE MINISTER FOR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) No "Shila Lekh" (inscription) is being destroyed/demolished in Bhoj Shala, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh.

(b) Question does not arise.

Land Acquired by Army in J&K

1343. SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total area of land acquired by the army in J&K so far;

(b) whether the compensation has been paid to the owners;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the area of land taken by army on rental basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) 11,420.459 acres of land has been acquired in Jammu & Kashmir so far under the J&K Requisitioning and Acquisitioning of Immovable Property Act, 1958 and J&K Land Acquisition Act, 1990 (svt).

(b) and (c). Compensation for the above acquired lands has been paid except for the followig areas for the reasons stated therein :

(i) 1007.469 acres - for want of Assessment reports as per the J & K RAIP Act from the State Government authorities indicating the amount of compensation payable.

(ii) 894 acres - final award under J& K LA Act had not been declared by the State Government authorities. However Rs.9,76,34,600/- has been paid as on account payment.

(iii) 32.176 acres - Assessment report from the State Government received in February 96 and is under examination in Ministry of Defence in consultation with Director General, Defence Estates.

(d) 30726.731 acres of land is held by army on rental basis.

[Translation]

Regional Cultural Centre

1344. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a regional cultural centre at Ranchi (Bihar) in order to patronise and develop tribal folk arts and culture;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Bihar is already one of the participating States under the North Central Zone Cultural Centre set up by the Government of India at Allahabad.

[English]

Expansion of UN Security Council

1345. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the United States has mooted any proposal at the UN to expand the Security Council to give permanent membership to Japan and Germany in view of their global influence and power;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken any steps to counter this proposal;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to assert India's right to permanent membership of the Security Council as a major South Asian country and the results thereof; and

(e) the countries which have supported India's candidature for permanent membership in UN Security Council?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (e). The United States has supported the candidatures of Japan and Germany for permanent membership of the Security Council in the ongoing discussion at the UN on Security Council restructuring. They have not, however, taken position on the candidatures of other countries. India has called for inclusion of developing countries in any expansion of permanent as well as non-permanent member's categories. India has also stressed that on objective criteria, some countires will clearly qualify for permanent membership, India among them. India's candidature for permanent membership has been strongly taken up during bilateral discussions, as well as in the Open Ended Working Group of the UN General Assembly on Security Council restructuring. Bhutan, Mauritius, Cuba and Dominican Republic have supported India's candidature for permanent membership in statements at the UN General Assembly, while several others have supported India in bilateral discussions. A very large number of countries have called for a broad based expansion of the UN Security Council to include developing countries.

Imparting of One Year undergraduate Degree Course

1346. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of universities are imparting